



503.30414V22

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: KATO, et al.
Application No.: 09/766,596
Filed: January 23, 2001
For: VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS AND OPERATING METHOD THEREFOR
Group: 3749
Examiner: P. Wilson

#15/IDS
M. WATTS
3/3/05

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 AND § 1.98

Mail Stop DD
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 2, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find full English translations and English Abstracts for each of the following Japanese patent documents:

- (1) JP No. 02-065252;
- (2) JP No. 02-178946; and
- (3) JP No. 62-216315.

RECEIVED

APR 06 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Further enclosed herewith is a copy of an English Abstract for JP No. 63-153270.

Also enclosed is a Form, substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, indicating filing of the patent Abstracts and of the full English translations, for each of the above-listed documents (1)-(3), and the Abstract for JP No. 63-153270.

Please note that each of JP No. 62-216315, JP No. 2-178946, JP No. 2-65252 and JP No. 63-153270 has been indicated as being previously considered by the Examiner; note Sheets 1, 3 and 4 of 10, enclosed with the Information Disclosure Statement filed February 6, 2002, in the above-identified application. Note that partial translations and/or Abstracts have previously been submitted for JP No. 62-216315, JP No. 2-178946 and JP No. 2-65252; full English translations of these documents, as well as Abstracts, are presently being submitted. A full translation of JP No. 63-153270 was previously submitted in connection with JP No. 63-153270, as indicated on Sheet 1 of 10 of the Information Disclosure Statement submitted February 6, 2002; and only an English Abstract of this patent document is enclosed herewith.

Please note that since each of the Japanese patent documents has previously been submitted, copies of the Japanese patent documents per se are not enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a proper first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application. Accordingly, requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97(b) are satisfied.

In view of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with each of the documents listed on the enclosed Form. Accordingly, consideration of the listed documents, upon further examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 503.30414V22) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William I. Solomon", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

William I. Solomon
Registration No. 28,565

1300 North Seventeenth Street
Suite 1800
Arlington, VA 22209
Tel.: 703-312-6600
Fax.: 703-312-6666
WIS/sjg